

# **The 2006 Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Fellowship for Japanese Biomedical and Behavioral Researchers at the National Institutes of Health**

## **Scope and Purpose of the Program**

This program is offered at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), in cooperation with the NIH's Fogarty International Center (FIC), Division of International Training and Research and the NIH Office of Intramural Research. It is designed to support meritorious biomedical and behavioral research projects undertaken in NIH laboratories by young Japanese postdoctoral researchers who intend to hold research positions at Japanese universities or other academic institutions or public institutions in Japan in the future.

## **Terms and Conditions**

**1. *Number of Fellowships awarded annually:***

Approximately 15 Fellowships, but possibly fewer depending on application quality and funding availability.

**2. *Duration and commencement of Fellowship:***

Duration 2 years

Fellowships must begin on January 1, February 1, or March 1, 2007.

**3. *Financial terms of the Fellowship:***

JSPS will provide each Fellow with a monthly stipend of ¥379,000 (approximately US\$ 3,150) to be directly deposited into a designated bank account in Japan or the US. Each individual Institute or Center may wish to add funds to supplement the JSPS stipend, but are not obligated to do so.

**4. *JSPS stipulations for eligibility:***

- Candidates must presently be, or have a commitment to be, funded by NIH to conduct research at an NIH Institute. You may apply if you work or have obtained consent to work under a researcher employed at NIH, even though you are not a full-time paid researcher at NIH.
- Candidates who are already working in the United States must be eligible for an extension of their visa.
- Candidates must hold a doctoral degree, *hakushi*. Certification (*gakui shutoku shomeisho*) must be in the form of a diploma with an original seal and signature (not a photocopy) from the university issuing the doctoral degree (in Japanese if issued by a Japanese university) and must be attached to the application forms when submitted. This document does not need to be translated into English.
- Candidates must be **under** 34 years of age as of April 1, 2006 (**under** 36 years of age for candidates with a doctoral degree in such fields as medicine, dental science, or veterinary medicine).
- Candidates must be Japanese citizens or permanent residents of Japan.
- Other than a research position at a university, an inter-university research institute, a national laboratory or an independent administrative institution, a special public corporation, an authorized corporation, a non-profit organization, or a prefectural research institution in Japan, candidates must not have employment commitments outside of the fellowship program, including part-time work.
- Individuals who have previously been awarded a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research Abroad are not eligible.

**5. *Obligations:***

- Fellows must devote themselves exclusively to their research at NIH during the tenure of their fellowship. Failure to do so may result in the termination of the fellowship.

- Fellows must prepare an annual report on their research progress. One in Japanese is to be submitted to the JSPS Washington Office, one in English to the Scientific Director and supervisor of their host laboratory at NIH, and another in English to the Fogarty International Center.
- Fellows must not accept other fellowships during the period of their tenures.

**6. *Deadlines and selection procedures:***

- **May 31: Deadline for receipt of original applications to FIC (in both Japanese and English)**
- In July: An NIH review committee nominates the top 20 applicants to JSPS.
- In October: JSPS mails out preliminary selection letters to the fellowship awardees, notifies unsuccessful candidates, and sends the selection results to NIH. ICs at NIH begin to process the paperwork for accepting the awardees.
- On January 1, February 1, and March 1, 2007, stipends are awarded.

**7. *NOTE:***

- The names of the fellows and their host researchers and their research themes and reports are subject to public disclosure.
- Fellows are to cooperate in inquiries or investigations made by JSPS.
- JSPS may terminate the fellowships of individuals who have falsified their applications or who behave improperly during their tenure at NIH.

**8. *Application format and what to submit. Applications must meet these guidelines.***

- Application (English version): The maximum length of the research plan (Item #15) is 3 typed pages, single space, 11+ font, and 1" margins. The proposal should consist of background information, a first year plan, second year plan, expected outcomes, and a maximum of 10 citations. The research title (Item #6) must be stated.
- Letter of Invitation: Submit only one letter of invitation from your NIH host researcher. The letter must state a commitment by the host lab to sponsor you. The invitation may not be contingent on the receipt of a JSPS fellowship award.
- Degree Certification: Doctoral diploma with original seal and signature.
- Application (Japanese version): Cover sheet and 8-page application.

**9. *Review Criteria***

- Quality and feasibility of the proposed research project.
- Applicants past scientific record.
- Suitability of the sponsoring laboratory.
- Evidence that the applicant is prepared to do the proposed research.

**Application forms may be downloaded at [www.fic.nih.gov/programs/japan.html](http://www.fic.nih.gov/programs/japan.html)**

For further information please contact:

Aron Primack, MD  
Program Officer  
Tel: 301 496-4596 (direct)  
e-mail: [primacka@mail.nih.gov](mailto:primacka@mail.nih.gov)

Maria "Mili" Ferreira  
Program Assistant  
Tel: 301 594-9778 (direct)  
e-mail: [ferreima@mail.nih.gov](mailto:ferreima@mail.nih.gov)

Fogarty International Center  
Division of International Training and Research  
National Institutes of Health  
31 Center Drive, Room B2C39  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-2220  
Tel: (301) 496-1653 (main)  
Fax: (301) 402-0779